



MINUTES*

Governor's Child Foster Care Advisory Commission

Date of Meeting: March 18, 2019

Time of Meeting: 9:00-1:30

Location: Oregon State Library, 250 Winter Street NE, Salem, Room 103

Members Present:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| Timothy Colahan | Phone | Valerie Colas, Chair | Present |
| Caroline Cruz | Present | Robin Donart | Present |
| Elliott Hinkle, Vice Chair | Present | Alan Linhares | Phone |
| Charlie McNeely | Excused | Emily Reiman | Present |
| Kari Rieck | Present | Jessica Schmidt | Excused |
| Bill Wagner | Present | | |

Staff: Rosa Klein, Kali Scolnick, Katherine Bartlett

Presenters: Greg Westbrooks and Sara Fox of DHS

Meeting Objectives:

- Update on HB 2332
- Review of January 2019 Meeting
- Discussion with DHS regarding CIRT and investigating allegations of abuse in substitute care

January 2019 minutes

- Action: *Review and Approve minutes*
Bill Wagner: Move to approve minutes
Caroline Cruz: Second
All Approve

Discussion with DHS regarding CIRT process and reports, process for allegations of abuse in substitute care, and status of out-of-state foster youth

Presenters: Greg Westbrooks and Sara Fox

Greg Westbrooks

- Greg provided a brief introduction of CIRT process. He stated that he would provide more information to Commission at another time. This information has been received and will be presented at the May 20th 2019 meeting.

Sara Fox**

- There was a 50% decline in PRTS since 2016 - limited sources and capacity.
- DHS had given money for a start up program to keep kids here - (Greg: stated that the problem is that we are "siloed" and that DHS does not normally build programs but due to capacity issues they have tried to do so)
- Nationally 80% of children have issues
- The CCO's are not contracting with Jasper. Jasper takes out-of-state youth.
- Child welfare is paying for time for out of state placements.

** The requested follow-up reports and answers to the Commissioner's questions have been submitted to the Commission by Sara Fox for their review at the May 20, 2019 meeting.

Recap on Out-of-State Youth

Emily Reiman suggested and Bill Wagner agreed, that we should not be diving down how CCOs contract but what heard from DHS is they want someone to get everyone at the table in good faith to figure out this issue to build capacity in Oregon for these treatment programs - provide who needs to be involved and the time line to do this.

Robin Donart added that is what we need and that DD needs to be involved as well.

Kari Rieck would like Education to be a part of this as well.

Bill Wagner noted that before making recommendations he wanted to hear from OHA and DD services.

Allegations of abuse and neglect in substitute care/out of home assessments

Greg stated that he would provide us data on the following - how many assessment/investigations happen on foster parents and therapeutic foster home; how many are screened out; how many are founded, unfounded, and unable to determine. Greg is also to send information about the rules that DHS uses to investigate foster parents and therapeutic foster homes, in particular, the rule regarding whether frequency of allegations of abuse and neglect requires that DHS investigate and whether they are considered during investigation. Greg will also provide information about what training do foster parents' gets about how DHS will conduct its investigations when they are accused of abuse and neglect in their home.

Public Testimony: None

***an audio recording of the full meeting is available upon request**